

A MECHANICAL TRIUMPH.

Some Gossip about Machinery. The rapid growth and development of our country in the last three-quarters of a century, and the wonderful progress of our people in the mechanic arts, have furnished an unprecedented example of productive industry, and of the creation and establishment of all the essential elements of a great and increasing material prosperity.

We live in an age of machinery. The scarcity of native journeymen mechanics who are content to remain such, the uncertain supply of the demand through the channel of immigration, and, above all, the natural genius and inventive talent of our people, have necessitated the performance of much of the labor in our large manufacturing by rapidly running machinery.

No invention of a similar labor-saving character ever resulted in the same practical benefit to the people, or has come into such general use as that wonderfully simple piece of mechanism—the sewing machine. What could it do without it? Where would we now find hands to accomplish the labor which these busy little workers are doing? These are questions which determine the usefulness of an invention, and by them we may gauge the importance of sewing machines.

Six years elapsed before any further action was taken towards the introduction of sewing machines, and then, on the 22nd of February, 1842, the first American patent was granted to John J. Greenough, of Washington. This machine was a curiosity, making what is called the through-and-through stitch, the needle being pointed at both ends, with an eye in the middle, and drawn back and forth through the cloth by an arrangement of placers.

The next recorded attempt at an application of the idea was made and patented by Benjamin W. Bean, of New York. His machine required that the cloth should be laid in plaits or folds, through which a long needle was driven, forming a sort of running or basting stitch. This machine shared the fate of Mr. Greenough's patent, and soon passed into disuse or oblivion. In the same year (1843) a sewing machine was patented by George R. Corlies, of Greenwich, New York, but no one seems to know much about it—no evidence that its practical value was small.

Although to the inventor and to other thinking mechanics the practical value of this invention was apparent, people were shy of placing confidence in so startling an innovation, and no capitalist could be found who was willing to risk his money in an enterprise as hazardous as the manufacture of sewing machines appeared to be. Discouraged at home, Mr. Howe sought the needed assistance in England; but, regarding the scheme as chimerical, and treating the project with even more skepticism than had been expressed by his own countrymen, the English capitalists allowed the patentee to bring his machine back to America, to accomplish which he was obliged to work his passage on a sailing vessel.

This distinguished family, several of whose members have already made themselves famous in our National Legislature, will be well represented in the Fortieth Congress. No less than four Washburnes are already elected to the next House of Representatives—Elihu B. Washburne, of Illinois, well known as Chairman of the Committee on Commerce and Finance of General Grant; William B. Washburne, of Massachusetts, a member of the present Congress; General C. C. Washburne, of Wisconsin, a former member of Congress, and a Major-General of Volunteers during the Rebellion; and Henry B. Washburne, of Indiana, a member of the last House. The first three are, we believe, brothers, the fourth being their cousin. The head of the house is Israel Washburne, of Maine, an older brother of the three Congressmen, himself an ex-Congressman and ex-Governor, and now in training for the United States Senatorship from Maine. A younger son of the house is an aspirant for legislative honors in New Hampshire. All of them are staunch radicals.—Cleveland Leader.

counts of the present time would show; the value of these machines being \$6,605,345, and the amount saved to manufacturers of stitched goods is estimated at some sixteen million dollars annually.

Since the date of Mr. Howe's invention, some three hundred improvements have been made and patented, the most perfect of which is the Grover & Baker machine, which makes a stitch peculiar to itself, and bearing the name of the proprietors. The utility of a sewing machine depends upon its adaptability to the greatest variety of work, and this article would be incomplete if, after tracing the rise and progress of the idea, we should fail to point out from among the thousand varieties the one that comes nearest to perfection, and combining the greatest number of useful qualities. For certain kinds of works there may be machines more peculiarly adapted than others, but for all the numberless requirements of a family we unhesitatingly pronounce the smoothly, silently, and swiftly running Grover & Baker machine the best. The competition which the infinite variety of machines has created in the market, gives one but a slim chance of judging of the merits of a particular patent by its advertisement. Each claims for itself an immeasurable superiority over all others, and the bewildered buyer is lost in a maze of alluresments and attractions—some true, but more false representations. It is to a ward to our favorite Grover & Baker machine the encomiums which it so well deserves, that we have protracted this hastily written article; and as a full and accurate statement of its relative and comparative merits would necessitate the devotion of an additional column, we will close with a brief summary of what, from experience, we know to be its principal characteristic excellences.

One great advantage is that the thread is drawn direct from the spools, and requires no previous winding on shuttles; and the simplicity of all its parts and the easy adjustment of needle, thread, and work, make it more readily comprehensible to the learner than any we have yet seen. Another important fact is that they perform, without an alteration of the adjustment, a much greater variety of work than is possible on others; fastening both ends—two threads, it is true, and a considerable web and cry has been made over the waste of cotton, but our experience leads us to believe that this objection is more of an advertising dodge than the discovery of a real fault by its competitors—of the seam and requiring no tying. We might thus enumerate quality after quality in our own way, but our limited knowledge of both machinery and sewing would prevent our making ourselves very intelligible; and we think we do the inventors and makers full justice, and at the same time relate our experience in terms which there is no mistaking, when we say that the Grover & Baker machine may be chosen from among the now nearly four hundred improvements on Mr. Howe's patent, as the best, simplest, and most reliable sewing machine in the market.

The trade in these necessities, which have now become so indispensable, is assuming gigantic proportions, which the fortunate inventor of the principle never dreamed of in his most sanguine and hopefully prophetic moments. The value of the machines made annually in America is not far from twenty million dollars, and the business is yet in its infancy. Grover & Baker alone send many thousands to foreign markets, and this popularity abroad is evidence of their merit and superiority. American sewing machines are used all over the world, and, like American pianos, have furnished the principles which have been adopted by a great majority of foreign manufacturers. To us belongs the credit of first making the idea a practical success, and to us should come the profit. The sewing machine has been needed ever since Eve made her fig-leaf aprons, but it remained for the Yankees to devise the means by which to relieve the patiently toiling women from the wearing effects of endlessly tedious needle-work. Thousands now depend on the sewing machine for their support, the gentle exercise of propelling the treadles, and the merry clicking of its busily working steel fingers, keeping up the health and spirits of the seamstresses. They are a blessing, and as such should they be regarded by the multitude of those to whom the sewing machine has come as a beneficent fairy, bringing joy and comfort with it. We have published the advertisement of the Grover & Baker Manufacturing Company ever since THE EVENING TELEGRAPH had a local habitation and a name: The indorsements of many prominent citizens who, from time to time, have forwarded commendatory letters for publication, is sufficient corroboration of the statements we have made; and as the notice still graces our advertising columns, need we only refer our readers to it.

The inventive genius of the age has flooded us with labor-saving machines, and unless something occurs to put a check on the endless recurrence of discovery and improvement, we shall soon live and die by machinery. The duties of life may, before long, be performed for us by clockwork; and deprived of the great mental and physical counterbalance, labor, we will gradually drift into an inert *dolce far niente*; work will become play, and "Life will be ravished of its zest, And shorn of its ambition, And sink into the dreamless rest Of manhood"—N. Y. Citizen.

The Washburne Family. This distinguished family, several of whose members have already made themselves famous in our National Legislature, will be well represented in the Fortieth Congress. No less than four Washburnes are already elected to the next House of Representatives—Elihu B. Washburne, of Illinois, well known as Chairman of the Committee on Commerce and Finance of General Grant; William B. Washburne, of Massachusetts, a member of the present Congress; General C. C. Washburne, of Wisconsin, a former member of Congress, and a Major-General of Volunteers during the Rebellion; and Henry B. Washburne, of Indiana, a member of the last House. The first three are, we believe, brothers, the fourth being their cousin. The head of the house is Israel Washburne, of Maine, an older brother of the three Congressmen, himself an ex-Congressman and ex-Governor, and now in training for the United States Senatorship from Maine. A younger son of the house is an aspirant for legislative honors in New Hampshire. All of them are staunch radicals.—Cleveland Leader.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

[For Additional Local Items see Third Page.]

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL BOOK ROOM, Sunday School, and Tract Depository of the Philadelphia Conference Tract Society, formerly located in Sixth street, have been removed to their new Book Room, No. 1918 Arch street. The results of their labors, as seen in the report of the Conference Committee, shows a gratifying result for the past Conference year. Since that time they have purchased the building they now occupy, and constituted it the headquarters of the Church in this city and throughout the Conference. Their business is largely increased, and the cause never was more prosperous, and the results more than meet the most sanguine expectations of its friends. The last Conference gave it their full endorsement, and pledged their support.

A NEAR ROBBERY.—Mr. Vanderbilt, residing in Woodbury, New Jersey, came to the city last Wednesday with his horse and wagon. He drove to Fourth and Walnut streets, and making his horse secure, he stepped into a real estate office, where he stayed for a few minutes, conversing about some property. When he came out of the office he looked at his watch, and his horse and wagon, which he valued at \$500, were both gone. He looked up and down for the missing property, but in vain. Having urgent need of a team he stepped into Mr. Champlin's carriage shop, at Eleventh and Race streets, to purchase a wagon. As the proprietor took him around to see the various vehicles exposed for sale, Mr. Vanderbilt saw his own property. He immediately informed Mr. Champlin of the fact, and his wagon was restored to him. Prompt measures were then taken, and the man who took the wagon there to be sold was arrested soon after. He gave the name of George Daniels, and is only eighteen years of age. Since the horse and wagon was recovered, Daniels was taken before Alderman Goddard, and after a hearing, was held in \$1000 bail to answer.

AN UGLY CUSTOMER.—William Nichols was arrested yesterday afternoon for committing a violent assault and battery upon a man named James Ryan, near the new bridge, above Girard avenue. It appears that Nichols got into a violent quarrel with Ryan, and not being able to silence him with his tongue, he tried the virtue of his fist, and knocked him down. Not being satisfied with that, he picked up a large stone, and was earnestly engaged in trying to flatter Ryan's head, when the latter's yells attracted the attention of the police, who ran up and arrested Nichols just in time to prevent more serious consequences, as the stone proved to be much harder than Ryan's head, and gave him a very unpleasant sensation. Nichols had a hearing before Alderman Masser, who held him in \$600 bail to answer a charge of assault and battery.

SERENADE.—Last evening a large number of military and naval musicians of the city and vicinity, accompanied by the Liberty Cornet Band, called at the residence of Colonel Enoch W. C. Greene, United States Pension Agent of this district, in Wallace street, below Twenty-first, and rendered him a delightful serenade. In answer to repeated calls, Colonel Greene made a very pleasant speech, thanking his friends for the compliment conferred. Colonel Albert Barnes Shickler, Commander of Internal Revenue for the First District, also made an address, after which there was more music, and then for a while nothing could be heard but the rattle of the vessels used at the *dejeuner* within. Then there was a quiet lull in melody, and then before, and then all was quiet again until the dawn of day.

A SWINDLING OPERATION.—George Green was arrested yesterday afternoon, at Twenty-third and Brown streets, on a charge of misdeemeanor. It appears that Green took a load of hay to the Union Passenger Railway Station, and sold it to the company, receiving at the time a ticket for which he would be cashed by the Treasurer of the company. At the same time the Superintendent told him to bring on the load. He went out and altered the ticket so as to call for pay for two loads instead of one, and presenting it to the cashier, he had his hay, as he had expected, and a woman named Mrs. Shepherd, living in the house, who was sleeping in the bed at the time, was severely burned before she could escape.

A BURGULARIOUS ATTEMPT.—Yesterday morning Officer Keyser, whilst patrolling his beat, discovered a man trying to force his way into a shoe store in Fifth street, below Market. The burglar saw the officer coming, and tried to make his escape, but was unsuccessful, and was captured at Fifth and Shippen streets. He gave the name of John Slaver, and is alleged to be a professional burglar. When arrested he had the implements of his trade with him. He had free lodging accorded to him last night at the city's expense, and this morning was introduced to Alderman Tittermary. After hearing the facts of the case, the Alderman committed him to answer, refusing bail in the case.

THREE OF 'EM.—Three peddlers went peddling out into the northern part of our city as the sun went down. But owing to a remarkable oversight on the part of the three, they had neglected to procure a license for carrying on their mercantile adventure. Disastrous consequences ensued. At Germantown road and Oxford street all three were arrested—Isadore Lewis Levin, James Lewis Levin, and Myers Toll—and were escorted in triumph to the presence of Alderman Clouds. After hearing their stories, Isadore was fined \$50 in selling goods without a license, which brought his profits on to the wrong side of the account. The other two were sent on their way rejoicing.

RECKLESS DRIVING.—John McGrand was arrested at Second and Catharine streets, yesterday morning. It appears that John is employed in the responsible capacity of a drayman. Being of rather an impatient disposition, John undertook to drive right through the prison van, regardless of consequences, when he was arrested. The van did not receive much damage. John was taken before Alderman Tittermary, who committed him to answer the charge of reckless driving. It is probable that he will hold his horses the next time, as he will have ample time for reflection upon the danger of being too much in a hurry.

A GREAT MEETING of the religious world will take place next Thursday evening at the Academy of Music, on the occasion of the Twelfth Anniversary of the Young Men's Christian Association, with Bishop Simpson, Rev. Dr. Clark, of Albany, D. L. Moody, Esq., of Chicago, and delegates from many of the principal associations (General Howard among them), will be in attendance. Tickets are gratuitously distributed, and are in unusual demand.

A SEVERE ACCIDENT.—About 10 o'clock yesterday morning Mr. John O'Leary, living in Taney street, and employed in the Girard Avenue Passenger Railway station, met with a severe accident. He was cutting hay with a patent hay-cutter, when, by some inexplicable means, he got his hand under the knife, and had three fingers and part of his left hand taken off. He was removed to St. Joseph's Hospital.

SOUND RELIGIOUS READING, of all kinds, can be obtained at the Book Store of the Protestant Episcopal Book Society, No. 1224 Chestnut street. A change in the management of their establishment has recently been made, and their facilities for supplying the public with high-toned religious works have been greatly increased at the same time.

A STRANGER SUICIDE.—JOHN SMITH KILLS HIMSELF.—ADDITIONAL FACTS.—We have to record a very strange suicide that took place yesterday morning, between the hours of 4 and 5 o'clock. The deceased, John Smith, has been employed as a journeyman baker at the establishment of John D. Roth, No. 621 South Third street, since June, 1862.

Mr. Roth's statement of the occurrence is as follows:— Mr. Smith has been employed in our place for three or four years past. He is a single man, of steady, sober habits, and not at all given to any kind of dissipation. Nothing unusual was ever noticed in his behavior until about six months ago, when he began to act rather strangely. He would sometimes stop whilst at his work, and roll his eyes up and down in a curious manner, and then burst out into a loud laugh. Still, he would never say to any of his fellows what was the matter with him.

In fact, he was most uncommunicatively uncommunicative, having scarcely a word to say to any one except upon matters connected with his business. He had a habit also of talking to himself in a low, muttering manner, but so insistently that nothing could be determined. Yesterday he got up about a quarter before 4 o'clock in the afternoon. About ten minutes before 4, he and Mr. Roth went down into the cellar where they carry on their business, and Mr. Roth stayed with the deceased until 4 o'clock, giving him directions about the baking. When he returned after going up-stairs for a few minutes, he missed Mr. Smith.

It was then about ten minutes after 4 o'clock. He heard groans coming from the front cellar, and going in, he found Smith lying on a heap of coal. He was lying down, with his feet up high on the coal heap and his head below, and resting his face on his arms. Mr. Roth picked him up, supposing him to be sick, and when he, with the assistance of others, had carried Smith up stairs they found that his throat was cut. He could not speak. After remaining in the house until about ten minutes before 5 o'clock, he was taken away by a couple of his brothers-in-law. When taken away he was just able to breathe, and must have died a few minutes after he left the house. The wound was made by a razor, and almost severed the windpipe and jugular vein. The coroner was summoned to hold an inquest.

COLORIED WOMAN ON THE WAR-PATH.—Last evening quite a little excitement was occasioned by the actions of an excited female of the colored persuasion. The woman in question, named Annie Chapman, had conceived a violent antipathy towards a man, and thinking that the world could not contain them both, she buckled on her armor and went forth to conquer; but her enemy was wary, and kept scarce.

Annie, however, animated by her spirit of animosity, expressed freely her desire to annihilate her enemy, and consequently attracted the attention of the guardians of the peace, who arrested her. When taken into custody she attempted to throw away a black-jack she had concealed on her person, and a woman named a friend of hers, who was evidently intended to put to other uses than shaving, she had a hearing before Alderman Tittermary, who committed her to answer for carrying concealed deadly weapons.

SLIGHT FIRE—WOMAN INJURED.—Last evening, about a half hour before midnight, a slight fire broke out in the dwelling, No. 321 S. Eleventh street. A bed and bedding took fire from some cause unknown, and a woman named Mrs. Shepherd, living in the house, who was sleeping in the bed at the time, was severely burned before she could escape.

TO THE LADIES.—We desire to call your attention to the care of Messrs. Epstein & Haines, late of the firm of Owen Evans & Co., dry goods dealers, Nos. 113 and 115 North Ninth street—Price & Wood's old stand. A visit to their establishment is certain to result in pleasure and profit.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.—The annual meeting of the Society of the Alumni of the University of Pennsylvania will be held in the College Hall next Tuesday afternoon.

PRICE & WOOD,

N. W. Corner EIGHTH and FILBERT,

HAVE JUST OPENED

FROM AUCTION,

Silk and Wool Stripe POPLINS, very cheap. All-wool Poplins, \$1 per yard. Field Poplins and All-wool Plaids. All-wool Delaines and Merinos. Fine quality Black Alpaca. Fine Black Silks.

FLANNELS! FLANNELS!

All-wool Flannels, 75, 87, 45, 70, and 60 cents. Ballardville Flannels. All-wool and Domet Shaker Flannels. Heavy Canton Flannels, 25, 35, 51, 35 and 41 cents. Best makes Bleached and Unbleached Muslins, Table Linens, Napkins, and Towels.

GLOVES! GLOVES! GLOVES!

A large assortment of Ladies' Cloth Gloves, Ladies' Buff and White Cloth Gloves, Ladies' Colored Cloth Gloves, Children's Red, White, and Blue Cloth Gloves.

GENTLEMEN'S CLOTH GLOVES.

Span-silk Gloves, second lined. Ladies' Mitts, and Children's Hosiery. Ladies' and Gents' Merino Vests and Pants, very cheap. Misses' and Boys' Merino Vests and Pants.

PRICE & WOOD,

N. W. Corner EIGHTH and FILBERT Sts.

N. B.—JOUVANS KID GLOVES, best quality imported. Real Kid Gloves, \$1.25 a pair. Good Quality White and Colored Kid Gloves, \$1 a pair.

DRY GOODS.

GEORGE D. WISHAM'S GREAT DRY GOODS EMPORIUM, No. 7 NORTH EIGHTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA. LARGE AND VARIED SELECTION OF THE CHOICEST DRY GOODS, IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC. ONE PRICE, QUICK SALES, AND SMALL PROFITS.

LOOK TO YOUR INTEREST.

READ THE FOLLOWING:

If you Wish Real Fine and Strictly Pure

TEAS AND COFFEES.

At Lower Prices than much INFERIOR GOODS are usually sold for, go to the

NEW TEA WAREHOUSE

OF THE

AMERICAN TEA CO.,

No. 21 S. SECOND Street,

Between Market and Chesnut,

AND

No. 932 Arch Street, Near Tenth.

Every Person in want of Fine and Strictly Pure

TEAS, COFFEES, AND SPICES,

Will find it to their advantage to try ours. We guarantee to give satisfaction.

YOU CAN SAVE FROM 25 TO 75 CTS.

ON A POUND OF TEA,

IF YOU GO TO THE

AMERICAN TEA COMPANY,

No. 21 S. SECOND Street,

AND

No. 932 ARCH Street.

We import our Teas and Coffees, and can therefore sell much lower than most Stores in this line.

Our \$1.00 Black Tea is as good as the usual \$1.25 Tea.

Our \$1.25 Black Tea is as fine as the usual \$1.60 Tea.

Our \$1.50 Black Tea is the finest imported and equal to the usual \$2.00 Tea.

Our \$1.25 and \$1.50 Japan Teas are superior Teas, and usually sold at 50 cents per pound higher.

Our \$1.50 Japan Tea, and our \$1.90 Oolong (Black) Tea, are the finest Teas imported, and usually sold at \$2.25 per pound.

COFFEE! COFFEE!

Our 40 cent Coffee is the finest Coffee imported, and considered by every person who uses it as fine as any 50 or 55 cent Coffee.

If you wish to drink real fine Coffee, try our 40 cent Roasted Coffee. Nothing finer to be had in the market. Imported and to be had only at the American Tea Company's.

Our 20 and 35 cent Roasted Coffees are very fine.

Our Coffees are roasted fresh every day without water, lard, or grease.

All Goods Sold Wholesale at Cargo Prices, and Retail at Wholesale Prices.

AMERICAN TEA CO.,

No. 21 South SECOND ST.

AND

No. 932 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA.